



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DALLAS MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO TRAFFICKING MARIJUANA

(Tyler, Texas) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today that a Dallas, Texas man pleaded guilty to possessing marijuana with intent to distribute in the Eastern District of Texas. **MARVIN ORLANDO THORNE**, 40, appeared today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Caroline Craven.

According to information presented in court, on March 10, 2005, a Department of Public Safety (DPS) Trooper stopped Thorne's vehicle in the east bound lanes off Interstate 30, in Titus County, Texas for a traffic violation. During the course of the stop, a drug sniffing dog was called to the scene and alerted to the odor of narcotics about the vehicle. The DPS trooper then searched the vehicle and discovered fifteen bundles of marijuana, weighing approximately 6.5 kilograms and a .32 caliber semi-automatic pistol in the trunk.

Thorne is facing a maximum punishment of five years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

The case is being investigated by the Texas Department of Public Safety Highway Patrol, and agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. Assistant United States Attorney Jim Noble is prosecuting the case for the Government.

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